

Voluminous Tumours of the Base of the Tongue obstructing the Larynx. M. DIDSBURY.

A case of recurrent growth which invaded not only the part named, but the palate, post-nasal space, etc. Histological examination failed to establish a diagnosis.

ERNEST WAGGETT.

(From "*Arch. Inter. de Lar.*," November-December, 1899.)

Abstracts.

DIPHTHERIA.

Schmidt.—*The Results of Serum Treatment of Diphtheria in the "Rigä-schen Stadtkrankenhaus."* "*St. Petersburg Med. Woch.*," 1899, No. 38.

The author recommends the serum treatment. *R. Sachs.*

Siegel.—*Serum Treatment of Diphtheria.* "*Med. Corr. Bl. d. Wurt. Aerztl. Landesvereins*," 1899, No. 31.

The author advocates the anti-toxin treatment. *R. Sachs.*

Tavel.—*On the Strength and on the Preservation of Diphtheria Antitoxin.* "*Revue Méd. de la Suisse Romande*," January 20, 1900.

Two methods of increasing the strength of diphtheria antitoxin have been tried: (1) Increasing the virulence of the bacilli by repeated passages through suitable animals; (2) cultivating bacilli taken from human diphtheria on media specially favourable to the production of very active toxines. For various reasons the latter is the method to be preferred.

The author has carried out a number of interesting researches regarding the deterioration of the serum. The preparation of the serum should be aseptic throughout; this is much better than adding antiseptics to the serum or than filtering it. It should be kept in small tubes sealed at both ends in the flame, excluding air or oxygen, both of which rapidly reduce the value of serum. Light has a similar though less powerful action. Serum keeps best at a temperature of from 12 to 15° C. High and low temperatures are deleterious.

A. J. Hutchison.

MOUTH, Etc.

Masini.—*Have the Tonsils an Internal Secretion?* "*Ann. des Mal. de l'Or.*," July, 1899.

The author answers this question in the affirmative in a very short paper. Intravenous injection of the aqueous extract of the gland produces increased arterial pressure with slowing of the heart's action and increased force—results comparable to those obtained with suprarenal extract. The author claims that sources of error have been eliminated.

Waggett.